

REFERENCES AND REVIEWS

(Continued from Page 20)

length and diameter. When combined with cholecystectomy, the operation was successful in two dogs sacrificed in 7½ and 19 months postoperatively; a third animal died of cholangitis. Four dogs that had the procedure without cholecystectomy succumbed to cholangitis. The operation completely relieved bile duct obstruction in a patient with carcinoma of the head of the pancreas who was followed for six months postoperatively.

* * *

KNITTED MARLEX MESH—F. C. Usher. Arch. Surg.—82:771 (May) 1961.

The successful use of a woven mesh of Marlex monofilament for repairing hernias was reported by the author. Marlex mesh was found to cause very little foreign-body

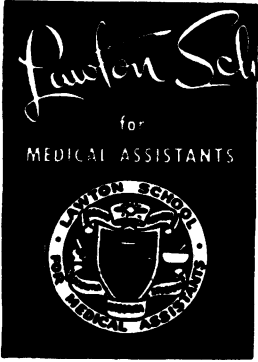
reaction and to be inert in the presence of infection. There were, however, several disadvantages to the taffeta weave—it lacked elasticity and the cut edges tended to ravel unless heat-sealed. The author found that a knitted mesh prepared from Marlex monofilament was superior to the woven mesh. It was more pliant and more resistant to fragmentation, it was resilient and had "two-way stretch," and the cut edge did not ravel. The knitted material was thicker than the taffeta weave, resulting in a heavier ingrowth of fibrous tissue and a stronger repair of the defect. Clinical use of the knitted mesh in 32 patients has been most satisfactory.

* * *

STUDIES OF NICOTINIC ACID USE IN HYPERCHOLESTEREMIA—W. B. Parsons, Jr. Arch. Int. Med.—Vol. 107:653 (May) 1961.

Large doses of nicotinic acid (3 to 6 mg. daily), administered for long periods to reduce serum cholesterol levels, caused reproducible alterations in the bromsulphalein tests in 8 to 36 patients. These alterations were accompanied by abnormal serum transaminase (SGOT) and alkaline phosphatase levels in some cases. Evidence that the alterations represent hepatic dysfunction (possibly related to changes in cholesterol synthesis), rather than hepatocellular damage, includes rapid reversibility of the chemical findings, preponderance of abnormal results in patients receiving delayed-release nicotinic acid preparations, and the absence of consistent histologic abnormality. When abnormal biopsy findings have occurred, other possible contributing factors (carbon tetrachloride, diabetes mellitus, prochlorperazine) have cast doubt on the etiological role of nicotinic acid. Reversible impairment of glucose tolerance during nicotinic acid therapy has not been accompanied by clinical evidence of diabetes or changes in control of adult-onset diabetes. Inconsistent rises in average levels of serum uric acid have not been associated with gouty arthritis or renal calculi.

Lawton School for Medical Assistants



**TRAINED
TO MEET YOUR
REQUIREMENTS**

Write us when in
need of a qualified
**MEDICAL
ASSISTANT**

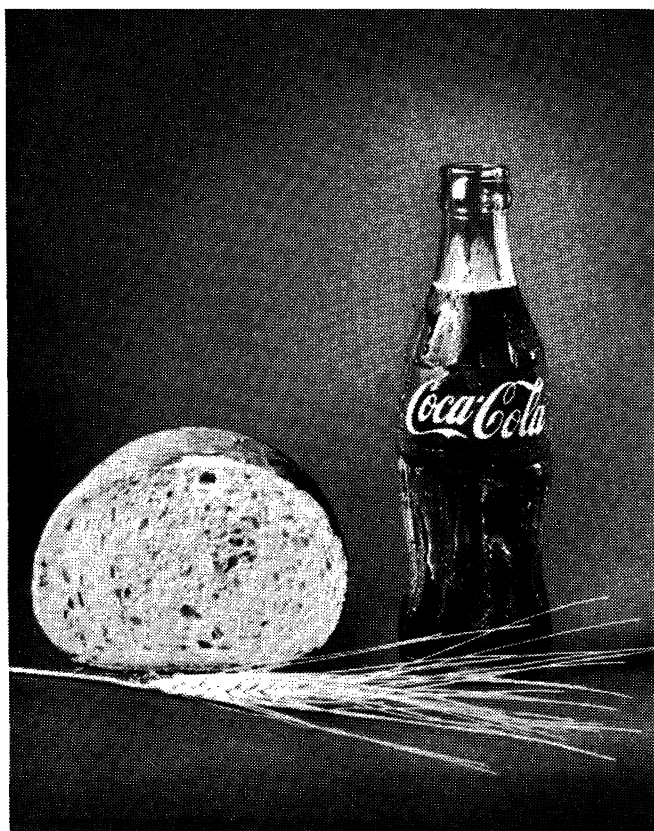
•

Ask us about our
INTERNE PLAN

•

Address
**Free Placement Bureau
LAWTON SCHOOL
145 N. ROBERTSON BLVD.
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF.**

Founded
1938



Coca-Cola, too, has its place in a well balanced diet. As a pure, wholesome drink, it provides a bit of quick energy.. brings you back refreshed after work or play. It contributes to good health by providing a pleasurable moment's pause from the pace of a busy day.

